

EXPRESS MAIL LABEL NO. EL715972182US

Docket No.: 13929/TBA

**DECLARATION AND POWER OF ATTORNEY
FOR UTILITY PATENT APPLICATION - JOINT**

As the below named inventors, we hereby declare that:

Our residences, post office addresses, and citizenships are as stated below next to our names.

We believe that we are the original, first, and joint inventors of the subject matter which is claimed and for which a patent is sought on the invention entitled "A sheet and product based on foamed shaped starch"....., the specification of which is attached hereto.

We hereby state that we reviewed and understand the contents of the above-identified specification, including the claims, as amended by any amendment referred to above.

We acknowledge the duty to disclose information that is material to the examination of this application in accordance with 37 Code of Federal Regulations § 1.56.

We hereby claim foreign priority benefits under 35 United States Code §§ 119 and 365 of any foreign application(s) for the patent or inventor's certificate listed below and have also identified below any foreign application for patent or inventor's certificate having a filing date before that of the application on which priority is claimed:

Prior Foreign Applications:

.... Italian Patent Application No. 102000A000141 filed on February 15, 2000

We hereby appoint the following attorneys to prosecute this application and to transact all business in the Patent and Trademark Office connected therewith:

Maurice B. Stiefel, Reg. No. 18,479; Marc S. Gross, Reg. No. 19,614; Lawrence G. Kurland, Reg. No. 24,895; Stephen P. Gilbert, Reg. No. 27,893; Elizabeth M. Barnhard, Reg. No. 31,088, Philip T. Strassburger, Reg. No. 34,258, and Mark E. Waddell, Reg. No. 31,803.


Address all telephone calls to _____ at
telephone number (212) 692-1800.

Address all correspondence to: Maurice B. Stiefel, Esq.

Bryan, Cave, McPheeters & McRoberts
245 Park Avenue
New York, New York 10167-0034

We hereby declare that all statements made herein of our own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under Section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application or any patent issued thereon.

Full Name of First Inventor:

Inventor's signature: Angelo BASTIOLI 

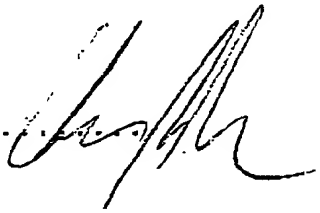
Date: February 08, 2001

Residence: FOLIGNO (Perugia) Italy

Citizenship: Italian

Post Office Address: Viale Ancona 26, I-06034 FOLIGNO (Perugia) Italy

Name of Second Joint Inventor:

Inventor's signature: Catia BASTIOLI 

Date: February 08, 2001

Residence: NOVARA (Italy)

Citizenship: Italian

Post Office Address: Via Della Noce 63,
I-28100 NOVARA (Italy)

Full Name of Third Joint Inventor, if any:

Inventor's signature: Roberto LOMBI

Date: February 08, 2001

Residence: NOVARA (Italy)

Citizenship: Italian

Post Office Address: Via Fara 51,
I- 28100 NOVARA (Italy)

Full Name of Fourth Joint Inventor, if any:

Inventor's signature: Piero SALVATI

Date: February 08, 2001

Residence: TERNI (Italy)

Citizenship: Italian

Post Office Address: Via Della Fiera 39/C, I-05100 TERNI (Italy)

Applicant or Patentee:

Attorney's Docket No.:

Serial or Patent No.:

13929/TBA

Filed or Issued:

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For:

VERIFIED STATEMENT (DECLARATION) CLAIMING SMALL ENTITY STATUS
(37 CFR 1.9(f) and 1.27(c)) — SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN

I hereby declare that I am

- ☐ the owner of the small business concern identified below;
☒ an official of the small business concern empowered to act on behalf of the concern identified below:

NAME OF CONCERN NOVAMONT S.p.A.

ADDRESS OF CONCERN Via Fauser 8,

I-28100 NOVARA (Italy)

I hereby declare that the above identified small business concern qualifies as a small business concern as defined in 37 CFR 121.3-18, and reproduced in 37 CFR 1.9(d), for purposes of paying reduced fees under section 41(a) and (b) of Title 35, United States Code, in that the number of employees of the concern, including those of its affiliates, does not exceed 500 persons. For purposes of this statement, (1) the number of employees of the business concern is the average over the previous fiscal year of the concern of the persons employed on a full-time, part-time or temporary basis during each of the pay periods of the fiscal year, and (2) concerns are affiliates of each other when either, directly or indirectly, one concern controls or has the power to control the other, or a third party or parties controls or has the power to control both.

I hereby declare that rights under contract or law have been conveyed to and remain with the small business concern identified above with regard to the invention, entitled

"A sheet and product based on foamed shaped starch"

by inventor(s)

described in:

- ☒ the specification filed herewith
☐ application serial no.
☐ patent no. , issued , filed

If the rights held by the above identified small business concern are not exclusive, each individual, concern or organization having rights to the invention is listed below* and no rights to the invention are held by any person, other than the inventor, who could not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or by any concern which would not qualify as a small business concern under 37 CFR 1.9(d) or a nonprofit organization under 37 CFR 1.9(e). *NOTE: Separate verified statements are required from each named person, concern or organization having rights to the invention averring to their status as small entities. (37 CFR 1.27)

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION

FULL NAME

ADDRESS

☐ INDIVIDUAL ☐ SMALL BUSINESS CONCERN ☐ NON PROFIT ORGANIZATION

I acknowledge the duty to file, in this application or patent, notification of any change in status resulting in loss of entitlement to small entity status prior to paying, or at the time of paying, the earliest of the issue fee or any maintenance fee due after the date on which status as a small entity is no longer appropriate. (37 CFR 1.28(b))

I hereby declare that all statements made herein of my own knowledge are true and that all statements made on information and belief are believed to be true; and further that these statements were made with the knowledge that willful false statements and the like so made are punishable by fine or imprisonment, or both, under section 1001 of Title 18 of the United States Code, and that such willful false statements may jeopardize the validity of the application, any patent issuing thereon, or any patent to which this verified statement is directed.

NAME OF PERSON SIGNING

TITLE OF PERSON OTHER THAN OWNER

ADDRESS OF PERSON SIGNING

CATIA BASTIOLI

DIRETTORE GENERALE (General Manager)

VIA DELLA NOCE 63, NOVARA (ITALY)

SIGNATURE

DATE February 08, 2001